IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the following claims.

(currently amended) A method of forming copper interconnect, comprising:
forming a dielectric layer over a substrate, the dielectric layer having trenches therein;
forming a copper diffusion barrier at least in the trenches;

depositing copper over the copper diffusion barrier and over a top surface of the dielectric layer; and

polishing the copper with a high pH slurry comprising 2-10 wt% silica, an oxidizer comprising ammonia persulfate $(NH_4)_2S_2O_8$, a corrosion inhibitor comprising a sulfate getter $\underline{Ba^{2+}}$, and a pH between 8-11.5.

- 2. (original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the dielectric layer comprises an oxide of silicon, and the copper diffusion barrier is electrically conductive.
- 3. (original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the dielectric layer comprises a fluorinated oxide of silicon, and the copper diffusion barrier is selected from the group consisting of tantalum, and tantalum nitride.

Claims 4 - 7 (cancelled)

8. (original) The method of Claim 1, wherein polishing comprises chemical mechanical polishing with a down force of less than or equal to approximately 3.75 psi.

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- 9. (original) The method of Claim 1, wherein polishing comprises: engaging the copper with a polishing pad with a down force less than or equal to 3.75 psi; and providing a slurry flow rate of approximately 200 ccm.
- 10. (original) The method of Claim 9, wherein polishing further comprises an orbital speed of approximately 310 rpm and a wafer rotational speed of approximately 10 rpm.
- 11. (currently amended) A method of polishing a copper film, comprising: polishing the copper film with a slurry comprising 2-10 wt% silica, an oxidizer comprising (NH₄)₂S₂O₈, a corrosion inhibitor comprising a sulfate getter Ca²⁺, and a pH between 8-11.5.

Claims 12 - 33 (cancelled)

34. (currently amended) The method of claim 11, wherein the sulfate getter is Ba²⁺ polishing comprises:

engaging the copper with a polishing pad with a down force less than or equal to 3.75 psi; and

providing a slurry flow rate of approximately 200 ccm.

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35. (currently amended) The method of claim 11 34, wherein the sulfate getter is Ca²⁺ polishing further comprises an orbital speed of approximately 310 rpm and a wafer rotational speed of approximately 10 rpm.